

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for laying out listed information, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

wherein a movable direction of the information storage frames on the layout region is set beforehand, and

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and is set to move one of the information storage frames along the set movable direction relative to the other information storage frames, the one of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved.

2. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 1, wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section moves at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along the movable direction of the information storage frames so that the plurality of overlapping information storage frames do not overlap with each other.

3. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for laying out listed information, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

wherein a movable region of the information storage frames on the layout region is set beforehand, and

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and is set to move one of the information storage frames in the set movable region relative to the other information storage frames, the one of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved.

4. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 3, wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section moves at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the movable region of the information storage frames so that the plurality of overlapping information storage frames do not overlap with each other.

5. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a listed information storage section for storing two or more pieces of listed information;

a listed information selecting section for selecting desired listed information from the listed information registered in the listed information storage section;

a layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed information selecting section, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed

information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region; and

a template storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region, storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

wherein the template can set beforehand a movable direction along which the information storage frame moves on the layout region,

wherein the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the template of the template storage section, and forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along the set movable direction of the information storage frames.

6. (Original) The layout system according to claim 5, wherein the template is a page template for specifying, regarding the layout region constituting a page, at least one of a shape, size, or arrangement of the information storage frame arranged in the layout region.

7. (Original) The layout system according to claim 6, wherein the movable direction is at least one of a first direction in a layout plane, a second direction opposed to the first direction, a third direction, and a fourth direction, the third and fourth directions being opposed to each other and perpendicular to the first and second directions.

8. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 6, wherein the page template can set the plurality of different movable directions for one information storage frame,

the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along one of the plurality of movable directions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along another direction of the plurality of movable directions.

9. (Original) The layout system according to claim 8, wherein a priority order is set for the plurality of movable directions, and

the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along a direction having the highest priority of the plurality of movable directions, and the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along a direction having the second highest priority of the plurality of movable directions when the information storage frames still overlap each other.

10. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 6, wherein a common movable direction for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template, and

when any one of the plurality of information storage frames, which has the set common movable direction, overlaps another information storage frame with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable direction, along the common movable direction.

11. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of different common movable directions for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template,

the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames along one of the plurality of common movable directions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information

storage frames along another direction of the plurality of common movable directions with the information storage frames not overlapping each other.

12. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a listed information storage section for storing two or more pieces of listed information;

a listed information selecting section for selecting the desired listed information from the listed information registered in the listed information storage section;

a layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed information selecting section, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region; and

a template storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region, storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

wherein the template can set beforehand a movable region in which the information storage frame moves on the layout region,

wherein the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the template of the template storage section, and forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the set movable region of the information storage frames.

13. (Original) The layout system according to claim 12, wherein the template is a page template for specifying, regarding the layout region constituting a page, at least one of a shape, size, or position of the information storage frame arranged in the layout region.

14. (Original) The layout system according to claim 13, wherein the shape of the movable region is at least one of a rectangular shape, a circular shape, and other geometric shapes.

15. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 13, wherein a plurality of different movable regions for each of the information storage frames can be set in the page template,

the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in one of the plurality of movable regions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in another region of the plurality of movable regions.

16. (Original) The layout system according to claim 15, wherein a priority order is set for the plurality of movable regions,

the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in a region having a highest priority among the plurality of movable regions,

and when the plurality of information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in a region having a second highest priority among the plurality of movable regions.

17. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 15, wherein the plurality of movable regions can be set across pages.

18. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 13, wherein a common movable region for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template, and

when one of the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable region, overlaps another information storage frame with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable region, in the common movable region.

19. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 18, wherein a plurality of different common movable regions for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template,

the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames in one of the plurality of common movable regions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames in another region of the plurality of common movable regions with the information storage frames not overlapping each other.

20. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a listed information storage section for storing two or more pieces of listed information;

a listed information selecting section for selecting the listed information from the listed information storage section;

a layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed information selecting section, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region; and

a template storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region, storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

wherein the template can set beforehand a movable direction along which the information storage frame moves on the layout region, and a movable region,

wherein the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the template of the template storage section, and forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the overlapping information storage frames in the movable region along the set movable direction and the set movable region to a position where the information storage frames do not overlap each other.

21. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 5, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

wherein the listed information selecting section selects the listed information from the listed information storage section based on the user information of the user information storage section.

22. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 5, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

wherein the layout section lays out listed information, which is selected by the listed information selecting section, based on the user information of the user information storage section.

23. (Previously Presented) A layout program stored on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to perform processing realized as a layout section of a layout system, comprising:

the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, and moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, moving at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along a set movable direction of the information storage frames so that the plurality of overlapping information storage frames do not overlap with each other, the set movable direction of the at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames being set beforehand.

24. (Previously Presented) A layout program stored on a computer-readable medium for causing a computer to perform processing realized as a layout section of a layout system, comprising:

the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, and moves the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, moving at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in a set movable region of the information storage frames so that the plurality of overlapping information storage frames do not overlap with each other, the set movable direction of the at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames being set beforehand.

25. (Previously Presented) A layout method for laying out listed information, comprising:

generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermine layout region,

forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, and moving the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship,

setting beforehand a movable direction of the information storage frames on the layout region, and

when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, moving at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along the set movable direction of the information storage frames.

26. (Previously Presented) A layout method for laying out listed information, comprising:

generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, and moving the information storage frames belonging to one of the plurality of groups so as to have an original relative positional relationship,

setting beforehand a movable region of the information storage frames on the layout region, and

when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, moving at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the set movable region of the information storage frames.

27. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups and sets to move at least one of the information storage frames belonging to the same group so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship between a center point of the one of the information storage frames with a center point of each of other information storage frames, each of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved.

28-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information, which is composed of a character string of vertical writing, in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, vertically on the layout region, and sets to move some or all of the information storage frames laterally so as to align line positions, so that the layout is generated.

32. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of rectangular information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, diagonally on the layout region, and moves some or all of the information storage frames so as to connect corners, so that the layout is generated.

33. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 27, wherein the layout system is set so that the information storage frames are expandable or reducible according to an amount of the listed information, and when the positional relationship is changed by expansion or reduction, some or all of the information storage frames are further moved so as to have an original relative positional relationship, so that the layout is generated.

34. (Previously Presented) A layout system including a central processing unit, comprising:

a layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a plurality of groups, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a relative positional relationship between the center points of each of the information storage frames on the layout region, can expand or reduce the information storage frames according to an amount of the listed information, determines a relative positional relationship between center points of the information storage frames before storing the listed information, and

wherein when a center point of the information storage frame serving as a reference is displaced by expansion or reduction of the information storage frame, the layout section is set to displace center points of each of the other information storage frames according to a displacement amount to maintain an original relative positional relationship between the center points, so that the layout is generated.

35. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 34, wherein when the center point of the information storage frame serving as the reference is displaced and the other information storage frames accordingly move out of the layout region, the layout section is set to reduce a distance between the center points while maintaining a ratio of distances in the relative positional relationships of the information storage frames, so that the layout is generated.

36. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 27, wherein when the information storage frames are moved, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames to a position where none of the information storage frames overlaps allocated information storage frames of another group, so that the layout is generated.

37. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 27, wherein the layout section is set to lay out the information storage frames based on a template for defining a layout of the listed information beforehand.

38. (Previously Presented) A layout program stored on a computer-readable medium for realizing a function of layout section by means of a computer, comprising:
generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region;
storing listed information in the information storage frames;
forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups; and

setting to move the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a relative positional relationship with each other, each of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved.

39. (Previously Presented) A layout program stored on a computer-readable medium for realizing a function of layout section by means of a computer, comprising:

generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region;

storing listed information in the information storage frames;

forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups;

moving the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, each of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved,

storing the listed information in the information storage frames, and

when the information storage frame is expanded or reduced according to an amount of the stored listed information, changing the positional relationship, and setting to move the information storage frames so as to have the predetermined relative positional relationship again, so that the listed information is laid out.

40. (Previously Presented) A layout method, comprising:

generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region; and

forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups;

moving the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, each of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved; and

storing listed information in the information storage frames, so that the listed information is laid out.

41. (Previously Presented) A layout method, comprising:

generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames into a group movably on a layout region,

forming the information storage frames into a plurality of groups;

moving the information storage frames so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, each of the information storage frames holding its shape when being moved;

storing listed information in the information storage frames; and

when the information storage frames are expanded or reduced according to an amount of the listed information, moving the information storage frames so as to restore a relative positional relationship of the information storage frames, which have been changed by expansion or reduction, to the predetermined relative positional relationship, so that listed information is laid out.

42. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 12, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

wherein the listed information selecting section selects the listed information from the listed information storage section based on the user information of the user information storage section.

43. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 20, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

wherein the listed information selecting section selects the listed information from the listed information storage section based on the user information of the user information storage section.

44. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 12, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user, wherein the layout section lays out listed information, which is selected by the listed information selecting section, based on the user information of the user information storage section.

45. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 20, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user, wherein the layout section lays out listed information, which is selected by the listed information selecting section, based on the user information of the user information storage section.

46-48. (Canceled)

49. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 31, wherein the layout system is set so that the information storage frames are expandable or reducible according to an amount of the listed information, and when the positional relationship is changed by expansion or reduction, some or all of the information storage frames are further moved so as to have an original relative positional relationship, so that the layout is generated.

50. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 32, wherein the layout system is set so that the information storage frames are expandable or reducible according to an amount of the listed information, and when the positional relationship is changed by expansion or reduction, some or all of the information storage frames are further moved so as to have an original relative positional relationship, so that the layout is generated.

51-53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 31, wherein when the information storage frames are moved, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames to a position where none of the information storage frames overlaps allocated information storage frames of another group, so that the layout is generated.

55. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 32, wherein when the information storage frames are moved, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames to a position where none of the information storage frames overlaps allocated information storage frames of another group, so that the layout is generated.

56. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 34, wherein when the information storage frames are moved, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames to a position where none of the information storage frames overlaps allocated information storage frames of another group, so that the layout is generated.

57-59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 31, wherein the layout section is set to lay out the information storage frames based on a template for defining a layout of the listed information beforehand.

61. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 32, wherein the layout section is set to lay out the information storage frames based on a template for defining a layout of the listed information beforehand.

62. (Previously Presented) The layout system according to claim 34, wherein the layout section is set to lay out the information storage frames based on a template for defining a layout of the listed information beforehand.